House Republican Press Release

March 2, 2005

Press Office: 860-240-8700

Rep. Labriola, First Selectman Palmer Testify in Favor of Legislation Promoting Foreign Trade Zone at Oxford Airport



State Representative David Labriola, R-Naugatuck, today testified before a legislative committee in favor of legislation that would expedite the process of establishing a foreign trade zone at Waterbury-Oxford Airport. House Bill 5181, An Act Concerning Establishment Of A Foreign Trade Zone At The Waterbury-Oxford Airport,

which was introduced by Rep. Labriola, was discussed during a public hearing held by the Legislature's Commerce Committee.

Rep. Labriola was joined by Oxford First Selectman August Palmer III, who also testified in favor of HB 5181. The bill would further state support to the Town of Oxford in applying to the federal Department of Commerce's Foreign Trade Zone Board for the necessary zone status.

"Our testimony before the Commerce Committee represents further progress building this economic engine of growth," said Rep. Labriola. "We will continue our efforts to create the Foreign Trade Zone for Oxford."

"This is one of the many small steps necessary to return manufacturing and jobs to our area," said Palmer. "Creation of a Foreign Trade Zone allows us to determine our own destiny as the town moves forward."